

SECRET

28 January 1969

Copy No. 3

25X1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services & Support Group, NPIC

SUBJECT: NPIC Fiscal 71 R&D

25X1

1. I have sent to you [redacted], dated 27 January 1969) a copy of my description of the various proposed R&D projects for Fiscal 71. The description is, in effect, a combined effort to cite objectives; degree of risk; and application of these projects. I trust that all of us in the Center are in general agreement as to the thrust of these paragraphs.

2. I do have a number of questions, however, and I think we should begin to get answers to these questions because they are reflective of possible inconsistencies in our plans and because they might be asked by others with higher authority.

3. With regard to Automatic Target Recognition, it strikes me that it is late for starting a production model of a cloud-screener prototype. I hope that we budget nothing for ATR in FY 70 and assume that the 69 program spans both years. Should we intensify this to assure earlier availability of a production model? Are we processing this as fast as is reasonable? How do we keep other aspects of "state of the art" work in ATR realistic? For example, does IEG see less need for target category filters for search purposes than, say, for some way of aiding the search process in various geographic areas, e.g., China vs USSR vs Cuba, etc.

4. With regard to silver and non-silver processes, 71 strikes me as late for equipment development in this field. Is our timetable the best one that can be devised? For example, what do we get for our [redacted] in Fiscal 70? If we intensify this investment, would we gain some valuable time considering [redacted]

25X1

25X1

5. FY 71 seems to me to be very late for dealing with the Automatic Transport Materials. What do we get for the [redacted] planned for FY 70? If we have a problem requiring such materials, would the total funding of this program in FY 70 bring home the bacon by early FY 71? The same question occurs to me with regard to Chip Storage and Retrieval.

25X1

25X1

Declassification Review by NIMA/DoD

SECRET

SUBJECT: NPIC Fiscal 71 R&D

6. Assuming that we will have continuing rapid ADP advances and product improvement why do we not include something for this in our FY 70, as well as our FY 71 budget?

7. With regard to test & evaluation, I think I understand this but I would like to know specifically how other speciality offices like Commo and TSD are facing up to the problem of T&E of unique, specialized equipment. Are they budgeting development sums for this purpose?

8. If Dodging development has the importance ascribed to it for FY 71, why are we doing nothing in this field prior to that time?

10. I would like to see a stereogram. To what extent are IEG requirements behind our R&D plans in this field? What does IAS think about stereograms as an aid to PI? What is the nature of off-the-shelf equipment available for this purpose? (I have understood that a stereogram-maker was a hit of the international photogrammetry show in Switzerland last summer.)

11. I cannot emphasize too much the importance of applying the useful data from the imagery interpretation research studies. How does TSSG plan to serve up this data to be acted upon by those who are directly responsible for the problems or procedures involved?

Executive Director, NPIC

Distribution:

Copy 1 - NPIC/TSSG
2 - NPIC/PPBS
3-4 - NPIC/ODIR